



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

American School
of Classical Studies
at Athens

OENIADAE

IV

THE BUILDING ON THE HILL

WITHIN the circuit of the walls of Oeniadae, on a hilltop a short distance from the acropolis, remains of walls were observed protruding above the ground. As this place had already been examined by Heuzéy,¹ who thought it might be the site of a temple, excavations were undertaken in December, 1900, and continued for five days. It was soon discovered that from its form the building could not have been a temple. The building is situated on the crest of the hill, which descends most precipitously on its western side, and here was required the retaining wall noticed by Heuzey, which is not constructed of Hellenic masonry, but is, on the contrary, polygonal in style.

The form and construction of the building may best be seen by a reference to the plan (Fig. 33), and only a few words are needed in explanation. Toward the east are two long walls running from north to south. The space between these walls, A, was probably never covered in, but was merely a terrace or approach on the gentle slope toward the east. The inner wall is interrupted midway by an outcropping of rock, which projects into the space A. In this rock is a narrow cutting which may have served as a support for an inscribed stélé.

¹ Cf. Heuzey, *L'Acarmanie*, p. 445: "Dans la partie haute de la ville, sur une crête isolée, je remarquai un mur de soutènement, formé encore de quatre ou cinq assises helléniques (?), qui marque peut-être la place de quelque temple."

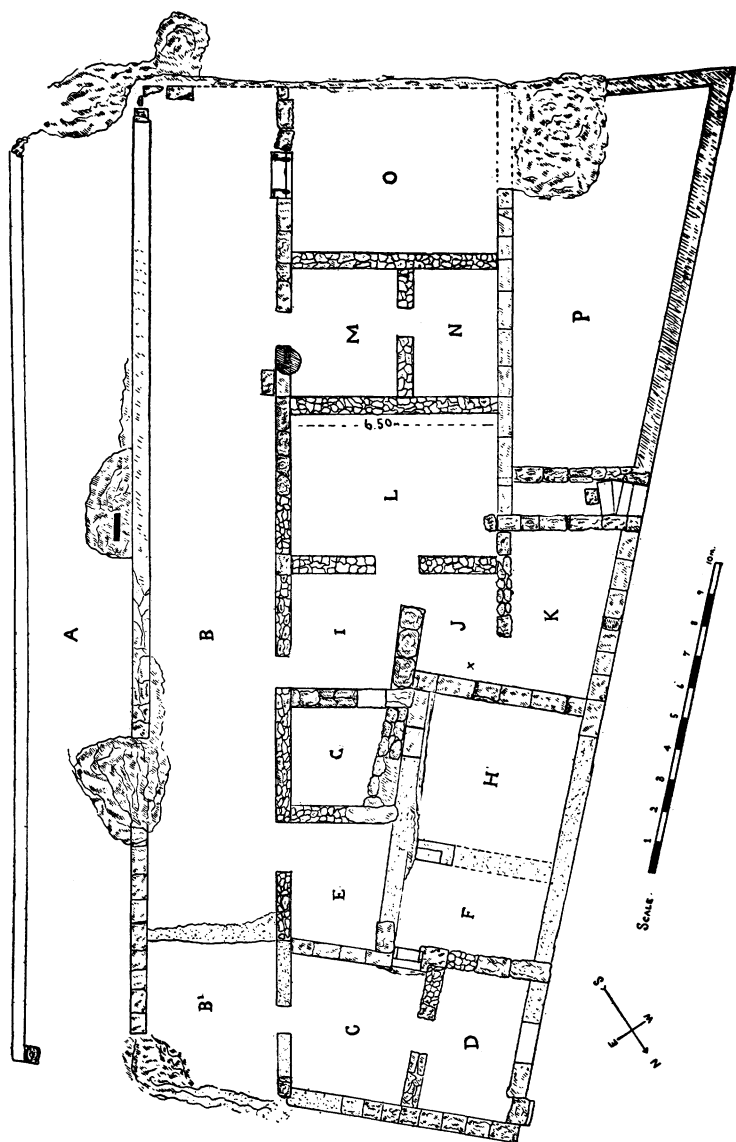


FIGURE 33. — PLAN OF THE BUILDING ON THE HILL AT OENIADAE.

The long enclosure, B, inside the second wall seems to have been a porch running the entire length of the building, *c.* 32 m. ;

the northern end, B¹, is at a somewhat lower level. From this porch there opens a complexus of rooms, no less than thirteen in number.

Beginning at the north, B¹, we find a doorway which opens into a series of four rooms, C, D, F, and H. The outside walls of these rooms are composed of large blocks of stone, which rest on the levelled rock; in places where the walls are entirely destroyed, as on the eastern sides of F and H, we see only the

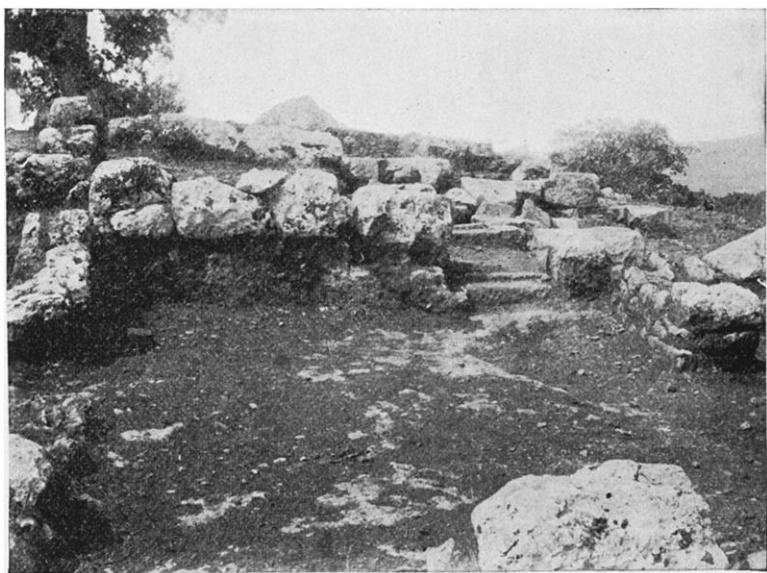


FIGURE 34.—THE BUILDING ON THE HILL, LOOKING SOUTHWEST FROM ROOM C.

cuttings made in the rock to receive the masonry. The floors of these rooms are cut from the rock, but seem, from traces discovered, to have been covered with a layer of cement originally. Traces of ashes were also observed in the earth removed from these rooms, and the effect of fires was noticed on the rock beneath. Of these four rooms, only C opens directly on the corridor; D is entered from C through a doorway toward the west, and F is also entered from C through a doorway in the southwest corner. The threshold of this last doorway is still

in place (cf. Fig. 34), and shows that the door was about 0.70 m. in width. Room H must have been entered from F, but the dividing wall with the doorway has been totally destroyed, and only its bedding remains cut in the rock, with one stone in place at the east end. The rooms in this part of the building are seen to be of an irregular shape, which is due to the fact that the wall on the west is not parallel with those on the east, but runs slantingly, so that, while the outside walls



FIGURE 35. — POLYGONAL RETAINING WALL WEST OF THE BUILDING
ON THE HILL.

of the building proper at the north are only 6.80 m. apart, the corresponding walls at the southern end of the building are about 13 m. apart.

Proceeding south along the corridor from C, we next find a doorway leading into a single room, E; the floors of this and the following rooms, which are all on a higher level than those already described, were not cut out of the rock, but were formed of earth. The walls of small stones which bound these rooms were also laid on the earth.

The next doorway opening from the corridor leads to a series of rooms. The room G, although adjoining the corridor, has no entrance directly from it, but was entered from I, the first room of the series. Room L was entered from I through a doorway on the opposite (south) side from G. This room, L, is about 4.50 m. in depth and 6.50 m. in width, and is rectangular in shape, for we find here a wall on the west parallel with the corridor; it was probably entered also from the west,



FIGURE 36. — THE BUILDING ON THE HILL, LOOKING NORTHEAST FROM ROOM O.

for at this point a stairway leads up through the polygonal retaining wall (cf. Fig. 35). Of this stairway, which is about 1 m. in width, there are four steps remaining. Toward the west an irregularly shaped room, J, also opens off room I, and another room, K, lies in turn to the west of this.

The next doorway from the corridor B admits us to two rooms, M and N, placed one behind the other; a large tree, which has grown up at one side of this doorway, has destroyed the wall at this point. The walls here are composed of small

stones which were built into a heterogeneous mass without being fitted to one another (cf. Fig. 36).

The last room, O, toward the south is entered through a door from the corridor, the threshold of which door is still in place and shows the slots used for fastening it. The stone is 1.25 m. in length and 0.60 m. in width. On the west side of this room a large mass of rock crops out, and none of the wall of masonry remains either here or at the southern side.

The enclosure P was not a room, but formed a terrace to which access was given by the small staircase already mentioned. The wall of polygonal masonry, which is preserved to a height of four courses, bounds the enclosure on the west, and, turning an acute angle at the southwest corner, it extends to the mass of rock which forms the western side of room O. The whole platform, P, is on a lower level than the rooms immediately to the east of it.

Throughout the excavation a few small objects in iron, bronze, and clay were discovered, of which I subjoin a list.

In different parts of the building, ten iron nails were found, three of which are mere fragments. These nails have large flat heads, 0.03 m. in diameter and vary in length from 0.11 m. to 0.15 m. Five are bent so as to form right angles at a distance of 0.055 m. from the heads; it is evident that these were driven through some substance and then clinched to hold more firmly, probably in the construction of wooden doors. Also of iron are three spear-heads, one of which is very badly corroded. Of the three the longest is 0.112 m., and the shortest 0.08 m.; Fig. 37 gives their shapes and relative sizes.

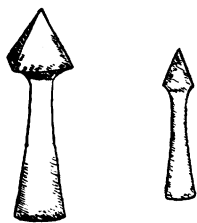


FIGURE 37.—SPEAR-HEADS
FOUND IN THE BUILDING
ON THE HILL.

In bronze there was found a Megarian coin near the surface of the ground at the northern end of the long corridor, B; it dates from the third century B.C. (For the type, cf. *Brit. Mus. Cat.*, Attica, etc., p. 120; Megara, no. 21.) Other

objects in bronze are one nail, 0.072 m. in length; a small, thin box with a ring in the lid; a small handle, 0.03 m. across the top and 0.02 m. in height, which was evidently fastened on the outside and did not form a part of the body of any vessel (Fig. 40); and lastly a piece of bronze ornament whose use is not clear.



FIGURE 38. — BRONZE ORNAMENT FOUND IN THE BUILDING ON THE HILL.

This consists of six beads, which are separated from each other by two disks between each pair; from the last bead extends a tapering point, which probably occurred also at the other end of the series when that was complete. A pin runs through the fifth bead to serve as a fastening against some surface, to fit which the beads are slightly flattened at the back. The total length of the piece, which is slightly curved, is 0.105 m. (cf. Fig. 38).

Two stamped tiles were found at the northern end of corridor B, one showing the letter A and the other Δ , each 0.0365 m. in height (cf. Fig. 39). A quantity of small fragments of pottery were collected, most of them from room J at the point indicated by *x* on the plan. These fragments are mostly unglazed and are of a common yellow or red clay; a very few show a thin black slip or glaze. As far as can be

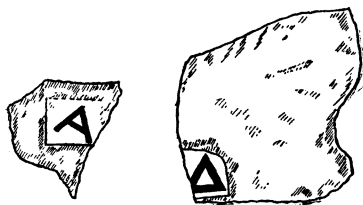


FIGURE 39. — STAMPED TILES FOUND IN THE BUILDING ON THE HILL.

judged from the shapes of the fragments, they all belonged to household utensils, such as water jugs, wine jars, flat plates, and round bowls. Some of the pieces have a sooty, charred appearance, evidently from use over an open fire in cooking.

Handles are shown in variety; one peculiar kind is worthy of mention, having the shape of a pair of ears or the raised wings of a butterfly (cf. Fig. 40). These are formed from one strip of clay, and are well suited for raising a hot vessel with the thumb and finger. Among

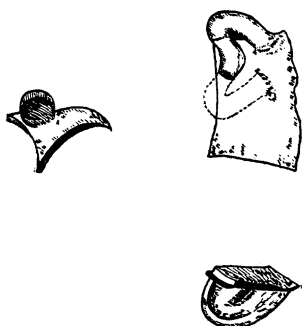


FIGURE 40. — BRONZE HANDLE
AND CLAY HANDLES FOUND
IN THE BUILDING ON THE
HILL.

the head, is so broken that only two rays appear on one side and the stump of one on the other.¹ The head-dress is represented as falling down behind the head and neck, but as the head is merely a mask, parts of it are seen only at each side of the neck.

We can give no name to this building on the hilltop more than to say that it seems to have been a dwelling-house. From its position and extent, we may conclude that its inmates were individuals of prominence, probably government officials. The upper

walls of the house were probably made of bricks, for fragments of these were found and one whole one which measured

the fragments of vases was found a small terra-cotta mask representing the sun-god, Helios (cf. Fig. 41). The material is a light yellow clay, and the total height, 0.09 m. The style and expression are rather severe, as is shown in the flat modelling of the eyes, the straight lines of the mouth, and the roll of hair which passes in a curved line across the forehead, and is divided vertically into small sections. The crown of streaming rays, which surmounted



FIGURE 41. — TERRA-COTTA MASK OF
HELIOS FROM THE BUILDING ON THE
HILL.

¹ Mr. Robert Brown, Jr., in *Semitic Influence in Greek Mythology*, p. 116, says: “*Qarnāim*, as the name of a horned divinity, reappears in the name and cult of the rayed (= horned) Sun-god Apollōn Karnaios, so ancient and famous among the Dorians; and which, as Otfried Müller has shown, ‘was derived from Thebes’ (*Doric Race*, I, 373). One idle story said that this worship was established by an imaginary Karnos, an Akarnanian.” The “idle” story

about 0.15 m. \times 0.125 m. \times 0.05 m. They were burned a dark red, but were easily friable. The roof was covered with tiles, as is shown by the many fragments of these found throughout the building.

BENJAMIN POWELL.

may mean that this worship of Apollo was local or preëminent in Acarnania (cf. Paus. III, 13, 3). The crown of rays of the Sun is prominent in literature as well as art. He transfers the crown to his son Phaëthon when the latter assumes the control of the chariot (cf. Ovid, *Metamorph.* II, 124, *Imposuitque comae radios*).